



Missouri Workforce Development Board
November 13, 2019 from 9:02 a.m. to 10:08 a.m.
Conference Call Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Commissioner Dan Atwill, Mathew Aubuchon, Garland Barton, Greta Bax, Chair Catherine Bass Black, Caron Canon, Dr. John Gaal, Stephanie Garrett, Director Anna Hui (Director Hui was not present at quorum call), Kathy Lambert, Mike Pantelo, Vice Chair Len Toenjes

Guest Attendees: Ronda Anderson, Sherri Baumeister, Spencer Clark, Lisa Elrod, Tim Gaines, Jeriane Jaegers-Brenneke, Donna Joharris, Linda Kirk, Jim Kolve, Pat Lubbering, June O'Dell, Sherri Rhuems, Keith Roderick, Diane Simbro, Lisa Sone, Alan Spell, Chris Sutherland (Senator Cierpoit Office), Jenny Warren, Yvonne Wright

MOWDB Staff: Mark Bauer, Director Mardy Leathers, and Allyssa Miget

Call to Order and Welcome: Chair Bass Black called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM and welcomed everyone. Chair Bass Black expressed her excitement in joining the State Workforce Development Board and appreciated guidance from the staff and Vice Chair Toenjes in bringing her up to speed.

Roll Call: Allyssa Miget conducted roll call and declared a quorum.

Approval of September 4, 2019 minutes: With no corrections/edits requested, Garland Barton moved to accept the minutes and Dr. John Gaal seconds. The minutes were approved.

Meetings Dates for 2020: Director Mardy Leathers welcomed the board members and reviewed the potential 2020 meeting dates. In 2020, we will begin to transition toward a different board to align our strategies and ensure membership composition remains compliant with federal law and the Governor's vision. State Board staff made 2020 month and date meeting recommendations to Board members for their consideration.

Members agrees to 2020 meeting dates as follows:

- January 29th - This will be a teleconference meeting and will center on WIOA State Plan development;
- March 4th - This meeting will correspond with the legislative session and potentially allow for interaction with the Coordinating Board for Higher Education that is meeting at the same time;
- June 23rd – This meeting is planned as a board retreat. Location to be determined;
- August 26th - This meeting will be held in conjunction with the Governor's Conference on Economic Development and will be in held in Springfield;
- November 10th – This will be a teleconference meeting.

September 4 TEAM Document Update: Director Mardy Leathers updated the State Workforce Board Members on the restructuring that occurred in the Office of Workforce Development (OWD) over the last month. OWD has seen four years of federal funding reductions due to the positive condition and health of the economy. The public workforce system served nearly 600,000 through the job centers at the height of the recession and now serving less than 100,000. The 20% decline in federal funds has put a significant amount of pressure on our system that has created a \$3.4 million dollar gap. OWD has reduced central office staff by one-third. OWD is considering staffing levels in the job centers and field staff. The staff that were laid off received severance allowances and OWD is working with other state agencies to identify job opportunities for impacted workers. Vice Chair Toenjes asked if all laid off employees are full time employees or if any staff were reduced from full time to part time. Director Leathers said no.

Director Leathers also discussed the TEAM document that was distributed at the State Workforce Board meeting on September 4th. Governor Parson's office requested a response and briefing meeting as a result of the distributed document. One request was to change the federal funding formula, last year OWD received a reduction in funds. Additionally it is costing more time and money to serve participants. The direction to realign and configure our public workforce system is from the federal government. OWD has also seen the Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) Directors change or leave. OWD is still managing the Central LWDB. OWD will be launching an initiative called Job Centers of the Future and the State Workforce Development Board will learn more in the spring on how we might move toward a more human centered approach. Director Leathers also mentioned that we held the first annual CLEO Summit on September 26th in Columbia which was led by Ron Painter, Executive Director of the National Association of Workforce Boards. Vice Chair Toenjes commented that he was surprised to receive the TEAM document at the board meeting. He encouraged state staff and local staff to build a better relationship. Vice Chair Toenjes also welcomed an opportunity for the Board to become involved in the Jobs For the Future project.

MOWDB Planning Committee Report: Vice Chair Toenjes said OWD sent out a nearly 300 page draft WIOA State Plan to the MOWDB Planning Committee. Vice Chair Toenjes commented that it that all public workforce agencies contributed toward the draft plan and the report reflects state agencies have been working together. Subcommittee members reviewed the report, studied the content, and made comments that contributed to the further development of the WIOA state plan. Vice Chair Toenjes made particularly detailed recommendations as a result of his special attention to the draft plan verbiage. OWD will distribute a revised and further refined WIOA state plan draft for board consideration. It is expected that the State Board planning committee will meet again to assist with further development of the plan prior to the January 2020 full board meeting.

WIOA Plan Discussion: Yvonne recognized the WIOA State Plan is still being finalized. The WIOA State Plan will open for public comment soon and remain open for 30 calendar days. Yvonne anticipates the MOWDB Planning Committee having another meeting in mid-January for additional feedback, prior to the January 29th teleconference. After the Board votes on January 29th, the WIOA State Plan will be sent to the Governor's

Office for approval. Then the WIOA State Plan will be uploaded on the portal. Chair Bass Black thanked the WIOA Partners for putting together the document with highlights of the WIOA State Plan and asked how the Board can support the WIOA Partners. Lisa Sone commented that this is a team effort and commended everyone who put in effort for the plan and its development. Jeriane Jaegers-Brenneke commented that plan today is night and day from the plan of four years ago. Vice Chair Toenjes thanked all of the staff and partners who reviewed the report and commended the partners for working together.

Apprenticeship Update: Director Mardy Leathers said the 2nd Annual Apprenticeship Summit was November 11th. Missouri is recognized nationally and internationally for apprenticeship and OWD is excited to be 2nd in the nation for newly registered apprentices and apprenticeship completion. Governor Parson attended as the keynote. Governor Parson also signed Executive Order 19-20 to create the Office of Apprenticeship and Work Based Learning within OWD. There are only six other states with an Office of Apprenticeship. This will coordinate apprenticeship efforts across more than five state agencies including Department of Social Services, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education-Adult Education Literacy/Vocational Rehabilitation and Career Technical Education, Department of Corrections, Department of Economic Development, and the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development-Office of Workforce Development and Office of Post-Secondary Policy. This allows the creation of a statewide branding for apprenticeships. The apprenticeship tool kit and playbook were released at the Apprenticeship Missouri Summit. Vice Chair Toenjes asked if businesses were involved in the Office of Apprenticeship. Director Leathers responded that the council needs to be established first, but an advisory council will be needed to work with the interagency council.

Questions, Comments & Closing Remarks: Chair Bass Black asked for any closing remarks or comments. Kathy Lambert congratulated Director Leathers and Yvonne on the WIOA Plan, Executive Order 19-20, new board members, and recognized workforce development was headed in the right direction. Chair Bass Black asked for one last call for questions or comments, and thanked everyone for the warm welcome and onboarding process. Chair Bass Black wants to be an active board member and welcomed other board members to reach out to her for collaboration and perspective. Director Leathers thanked everyone and expressed his excitement to work with the board. The State Workforce Development Board is not anticipating any more changes to the board, but anticipating an appointment from the Speaker of the House.

Meeting adjourned at 10:08AM.